

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 00872 231300 Z

45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 NIC-01 IO-12 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /145 W

----- 001647

R 231145 Z MAR 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2785

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 0872

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG US LY IZ KU SA YS BG; PBOR IZ KU; PINT

SUBJECT: CAIRO PRESS NOTES

1. BOTH AHAM AND AKHBAR FOCUS MAIN STORIES ON US " SPY PLANE" INCIDENT AND " ADMISSION" BY US AUTHORITIES THAT C-130 WHICH HAD BEEN ATTACKED BY LIBYAN AIRCRAFT MARCH 21 WAS ON ELINT MISSION. AHAM' S ARTICLE DRAWS ON NY TIMES REPORT THAT INCIDENT, IF TRUE, WOULD BE A " NEW ESCALATION" IN ME CRISIS, AND STATES THAT TIMES TOTALLY NEGLECTS " TRUE NATURE" OF US AIRCRAFT. AHAM ADDS THAT US AND ISRAELI PRESS ARE TRYING TO PROVOKE OTHER COUNTRIES AGAINST LIBYA. ALL PAPERS CARRY HOSTILE EDITORIALS ON SUBJECT, PRIMARY THEME OF WHICH IS THAT US " SPY FLIGHT" IS FURTHER PROOF OF US/ ISRAELI COLLUSION, AND THAT US AIRCRAFT WAS ON INTELLIGENCE GATHERING MISSION FOR ISRAEL. AHAM' S ALI HAMDI AL- GAMMAL STATES THAT BOTH EGYPT AND LIBYA " HAVE THE RIGHT TO FORBID THESE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 00872 231300 Z

AIRCRAFT, AND TO PURSUE THEM IN PROTECTION OF THEIR SECURITY." HE ADDS THAT US " THREATS" THAT INCIDENT WILL HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECT ON US/ LIBYAN RELATIONS ARE " STRANGE," FOR IN FACT US NEEDS ARABS MORE THAN VICE- VERSA, AND BAD US/ ARAB RELATIONS WILL HURT US MORE THAN THE ARABS.

2. VERY POSSIBLY RELATED DEVELOPMENT IS DEPARTURE FOR LIBYA ON MARCH 22 OF PRESIDENTIAL AIDE ASHRAF MARWAN, CARRYING MESSAGE FROM SADAT TO QADHAIFI. PRESS STATES MARWAN' S TRIP IS SCHEDULED TO LAST FOR 24 HOURS ONLY.

3. IRAQI/ KUWAIT BORDER ISSUE CONTINUES TO HAVE IMPORTANT POSITION IN CAIRO PAPERS, WHICH REPORT THAT PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY MURAD GHALEB DEPARTED FOR BAGHDAD AND KUWAIT MARCH 22 WITH MESSAGES FROM SADAT TO BAKR AND SABAH. EGYPTIAN PRESS, DRAWING PRIMARILY FROM REPORTS FROM KUWAIT, NOTES KUWAITI MEASURES AGAINST IRAQI CITIZENS IN KUWAIT, AND KUWAITI DEMAND FOR IRAQI WITHDRAWAL. VARIOUS MEETINGS OF ARAB LEAGUE SEC GEN RIAD IN KUWAIT ARE REPORTED, AND PRESS ALSO STATES THAT ARAB LEAGUE HAS CANCELLED ITS 28 TH ANNIVERSARY HOLIDAY IN ORDER TO FOLLOW CRISIS.

4. ALL PAPERS REPORT SAUDI ARABIAN STATEMENT ON RAID CONDUCTED BY PDRY MIG' S. COVERAGE OF SUBJECT IS BRIEF, REFLECTS SAUDI POSITION EXCLUSIVELY. PRESS ALSO NOTES THAT ON MARCH 22, FEISAL MET WITH EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR IN RIYADH. OF INTEREST IN CONNECTION WITH EGYPTIAN/ SAUDI RELATIONS IS MAJOR PRESS PLAY, INCLUDING PHOTOS ON PAGE ONE OF AHRAH AND GUMHURIYYA, GIVEN TO SADAT' S MEETING WITH SAUDI FONMIN SAQQAF MARCH 22 IN COMPANY OF FEISAL' S COUNSELOR KEMAL ADHAM.

5. MARCH 22 PRESS REPORTS THAT ON PREVIOUS DAY, SADAT MET WITH BOTH INFO MINISTER HATEM AND EGYPTIAN WRITER TAWFIQ AL- HAKIM. ACCORDING TO AHRAH, HATEM SAW SADAT FOR HALF AN HOUR, AFTER WHICH HE DEPARTED; SADAT REMAINED IN CONVERSATION FOR ANOTHER HOUR AND A HALF WITH AL- HAKIM. (COMMENT: EARLIER IN MONTH, TAWFIQ AL- HAKIM AND NAGUIB MAHFOUZ, MAJOR FIGURES OF EGYPTIAN LITERATURE AND CULTURE, WERE INSTRUCTED BY HATEM' S OFFICE NOT TO WRITE. SADAT' S MEETING WITH AL- HAKIM MARKS LATTER' S REINSTATEMENT AND A BLOW TO HATEM. WELL- INFORMED AHRAH CORRESPONDENT HAS REPORTED THAT, MOREOVER, MANY EGYPTIAN JOURNALISTS WHO WERE RECENTLY DISMISSED FROM CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 CAIRO 00872 231300 Z

THEIR JOBS ARE BEING RETURNED TO THEIR FORMER POSITIONS, AND

THIS REPORT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY OTHERS. CORRESPONDENT ALSO REPORTED THAT HEYKAL HAS BEEN JUBILANT OVER WHAT HEYKAL SAYS IS A PERSONAL TRIUMPH OVER HATEM.)

6. HEYKAL' S MARCH 23 ARTICLE EXCLUSIVELY CONCERNS HIS MEETING WITH MUJIB AL- RAHMAN DURING HEYKAL' S RECENT VISIT TO BANGLADESH. RATHER THAN RECORDING A MONOLOGUE AS HE DID WHEN WRITING ABOUT HIS MEETINGS WITH CHOU EN- LAI, HEYKAL NOTES HIS OWN, SOMETIMES CRITICAL, COMMENTS DURING HIS MEETING WITH MUJIB. MOST IMPORTANT OF HEYKAL' S REMARKS APPEARS AFTER MUJIB' S STATEMENT THAT BENGAL' S GREATEST MISTAKE WAS THAT BENGALIS DID NOT JOIN BRITISH ARMY. HEYKAL REPLIED, " I POINTED OUT (TO MUJIB) THAT HE SHOULD NOT OVERRATE THE IMPORTANCE OF MILITARY POWER ..." HEYKAL' S JUDGMENT ON MUJIB: "(HE) HAD READ HISTORY BUT HAD NOT DRAWN ANY LESSONS FROM IT ... HE LEARNED FROM HIS HEART ..."

GREENE

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973CAIRO00872
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730335/aaaaidel.tel
Line Count: 136
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Jul-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <29-Nov-2001 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971218
Subject: CAIRO PRESS NOTES
TAGS: PFOR, EG, IZ, KU, LY, SA, YS, n/a
To: AMMAN
BEIRUT
JIDDA
KHARTOUM
LONDON
MOSCOW
NEA

SECSTATE WASHDC

TEL AVIV

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005